

**NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION  
AND RESPONSE PROGRAM  
INFORMATION PAPER**

NGB-J1-SAPR  
Feb 09

**SUBJECT:** The National Guard Bureau (NGB) Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program

**1. Purpose.** To provide an overview of the NGB SAPR Program

**2. Facts.**

a. The Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program reinforces the National Guard Bureau (NGB) commitment to eliminate incidents of sexual assault through a comprehensive policy that centers on awareness, prevention education, victim advocacy, National Guard Bureau policy promotes sensitive care and confidential reporting options for victims of sexual assault and accountability for those who commit these crimes. For the purposes of this paper confidential reporting is defined as allowing a service member to report a sexual assault to specified individuals without initiating an investigation. This reporting option gives the service member access to a person who can refer them to civilian medical care, counseling, and victim advocacy, without initiating the investigative process.

**(1) State Staffing:**

**(a) JFHQ Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC):** Each state, territory, and the District of Columbia must select, appoint a lead JFHQ SARC. The JFHQ-SARC is qualified as a SARC once they provide an appointment letter and receive the required initial training by NGB SAPRO. This position should reside within the State J-1, have direct access to The Adjutant General (TAG) and may be either Army National Guard (ARNG) or Air National Guard (ANG) assets. The SARC position should be filled with a full-time service member to ensure 24 hour availability. States may hire civilians for the JFHQ SARC positions as long as 24/7 response capability is guaranteed.

The JFHQ SARC will be responsible for understanding and implementing the DoDI 6495.02, AR 600-20, Chap 8, AFI 36-6001 and NGB policy or guidance. If a Guard member is a victim of sexual assault while deployed, the JFHQ SARC will coordinate with Active Duty or Deployed SARCs to help maintain the services and support the victim needs after redeployment.

In March 2008, NGB-J1-TN released a JFHQ SARC Position Description for use in the states that specifies the rank and compatibility requirements when selecting a dual status technician.

**(b) ARNG Deployable SARC (DSARC):** In accordance with (IAW) AR 600-20, Chap 8, "Commanders at the brigade level and higher echelons in the ARNG will appoint, as a collateral duty, a minimum of one Soldier to serve as the command's DSARC." Rank must be of at least E-7, or above, or O-3 or above. When mobilized (Title 10 status), the Deployable SARC will assume full SARC responsibilities for the Brigade. When not deployed, the Deployable SARC may serve as an alternate JFHQ SARC or Victim Advocate (VA) to maximize state resources.

**(c) ANG Wing SARC:** IAW with Air Force Instruction 36-6001, the ANG will appoint a SARC at each wing to report directly to the Vice Wing Commander. This position is

currently assigned to the full-time position of Wing Executive Support Officer (WESO) and must be the rank of Captain, or above. The ANG SAPR Program Manager must approve waiver requests to appoint someone in place of the WESO or below the rank of Captain.

**(d) Victim Advocates (VA):** IAW with AR 600-20, Chap 8, and the ARNG will appoint a minimum of two VAs at each battalion at the rank of E-6 or O-2 or above. IAW AFI 36-6001, the ANG will select a minimum of two VAs at each Wing. Both ARNG and ANG VAs must attend a 40-hr training that meets DoD SAPRO standards and is taught by either a trained SARC or NGB SAPRO.

**(2) Training requirements:** SARCs and VAs must attend a 40-hr minimum mandatory initial training before assuming responsibilities. SARCs must attend annual refresher training to maintain certification. If SARCs are assigned in an “only duty” position, they are responsible for the training of Victim Advocates (VAs) in their states and territories. SARCS must use DoD SAPRO training standards and have NGB SAPRO agenda approval. All JFHQ SARCs are responsible for providing annual refresher training for their state VAs.

Additionally, initial SAPR Awareness Training is required to be taught during Recruit Sustainment Program; Officer Candidate School; Basic Training; ROTC programs; All leadership schools; Captain’s Career Courses; ILE, NCO academies, pre-command courses and during the pre and post mobilization process.

**(3) Sexual assault reporting options and requirements:** The DoDI 6495.02 provides specific guidance on both restricted and unrestricted reporting options.

**(a) Restricted reporting** allows a sexual assault victim to confidentially disclose the details of his or her assault to specified individuals and receive medical treatment and counseling, without triggering the official investigative process. It is available to National Guard while serving in active duty or active service, which includes full-time National Guard duty, ADOS +30 days, and annual training duty. Restricted reports remain confidential **only** if they are given to SARCs, VAs, or Health Care Personnel. Although a report to a chaplain is not a restricted report under the DoDD 6495.01, the DoD SAPR policy on restricted reporting is in addition to the current protections afforded privileged communications with a chaplain, and does not alter or affect those protections.

**(b) Unrestricted reporting** allows a service member who is sexually assaulted and desires medical treatment, counseling, and an official investigation of his/her allegation to use either the chain of command or law enforcement, or report the incident to the SARC or the unit victim advocate. Upon notification of a reported sexual assault, command and law enforcement notify the SARC who will immediately notify a victim advocate to assist the victim. Details regarding the incident will be limited to only those personnel who have a legitimate need to know.

All sexual assault reports must be verbally reported to NGB SAPRO by the JFHQ SARC within 24 hours of learning about the assault. Within two weeks, non-identifying information about the assault must be entered into the NGB Data Management System site on GKO. Only the JFHQ SARCs are given access to this site. NGB Senior Leadership receives monthly reports generated from data entry into this site from NGB SAPRO. Reports are used to provide leadership with an overview of trends, victim demographics, and to alert leadership of any potential inquiries.

Prepared by: NGB-SAPRO, 703-607-1460